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# West Europe Report

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### REPORT ON PROPOSAL TO CONVENE 17TH ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS

Milan L'UNITA in Italian 23 July 1985, pp 9-11

[Text]

1

At this meeting of the Central Committee and Central Control Commission we have to discuss and decide on the proposal adopted by the Directorate to convene the 17th PCI National Congress by spring 1986, 3 years after the last one in March 1983 and in accordance with the normal procedures laid down in the party regulations.

The need for in-depth deliberations and discussions involving the entire party and culminating in a national assembly was in any case recognized and clearly emphasized at the Central Committee session in May. We believe that the congress option can provide the most suitable and valid answer to this requirement. It is clear, however, that it is recommended and dictated to us by a combination of political reasons and primarily by the changes and innovations--including some very considerable ones--that have come about in recent years or that are occurring in our country's life and in the international field.

For the present a brief and objective mention of the essential factors will suffice.

During this period the people have been consulted four times in Italy, with a rapid succession of varying results.

Since 1983 there has been the experience of a five-party government headed by a socialist. Sharp tensions and a particular atmosphere of conflict within the Left have come about over the government's approaches and conduct in the economic field, while the elements of internal tension which have characterized this phase of the five-party coalition are still in force: A stock-taking of the past 2 years must in any case be carried out.

The recent election of the president unquestionably constituted a positive factor in improving the political climate and political relations,



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